



Class Title: Sexual Offenses

Class Code: 06.11

Handout Title: Sex Crimes Investigation

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Instructed by:

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of the class by written examination and/or practical testing, the participant will be able to:

1. Identify proper procedures for conducting the initial investigation of rape, sexual assault and sex crimes.
2. Define the purpose of the sex offender registration process.
3. Identify the role of medical personnel and rape protocol in sex crime investigations.
4. Identify the primary laws related to the investigation of sex crimes.
5. Define "Rape Trauma Syndrome".
6. Identify the victimology involving sexual assault.
7. Identify guidelines for interviewing sexual assault victims.
8. Identify the typology of rapists.
9. Define date rape drugs and the investigatory issues involved.
10. Identify myths and stereotypes involving rape.
11. Define and identify false allegations of rape.

INTRODUCTION

Sexual assault is one of the most difficult and serious crimes for a law enforcement officer to investigate. The challenges to a sexual assault investigation include the victim, the law enforcement officer, the prosecutor, and the myths and stereotypes surrounding the

crime of rape. The victim of a sexual assault can be challenging due to the trauma she has suffered. The trauma can be severe physically but most certainly is severe emotionally. Due to the intimate nature of this crime, it is extremely difficult for the victim to tell a total stranger about the details of the assault. Fear, embarrassment, humiliation, anger, and guilt, all limit the amount of information the victim is willing to give to law enforcement. The investigating law enforcement officer may prevent an objective investigation of the incident due to his/her values, judgments, and lifestyle. In addition an officer who lacks the training, skills, and desire to conduct a complete sexual assault investigation jeopardizes the possibility of a successful outcome. Just as the officer may lack objectivity toward the victim and sexual assault crimes, so might the charging prosecutor. The prosecutor may also be unfamiliar and uncomfortable in trying a sexual assault case in a courtroom and therefore shy away from filing charges. And finally, the myths and stereotypes of society about the crime of the rape can taint an investigation, thereby presenting additional challenges.

The investigation of sexual assault has been made less difficult in recent years as a result of advances in forensic science, the study of victimology, and suspect profiling. It is essential law enforcement officers understand these three aspects of sexual assault investigation.

TYPOLOGY OF RAPISTS

Criminal investigation analysis has never solved a crime. Criminal investigation analysis helps to narrow the focus of the investigation and allows the investigating officer to reduce the time spent on false leads.

Four Typology of Rapists:

- The Power Reassurance Rapist
- The Power Assertive Rapist
- The Anger Retaliatory Rapist
- The Anger Excitation Rapist

The Power Reassurance Rapist

The Power Reassurance Rapist is the least violent in behavior. The purpose of the assault is to reassure the rapist of his masculinity. He has no intent or motive to hurt or degrade the victim and therefore he uses minimal to moderate levels of force.

The sexual behavior exhibited by the Power Reassurance Rapist is unselfish in nature. He is the only one of the four typologies that is unselfish. He will do sexually what the victim will allow him to do. He involves the victim in the act and wants her to enjoy the act. He will have her undress, and the sexual behavior will include kissing, digital stimulation, to vaginal intercourse.

The Power Reassurance Rapist's verbal behavior is polite, complimentary, caring talk. He is generally not profane and is inquisitive in his conversation with the victim. He does like to have his ego satisfied and therefore may have the victim tell him how good he is. He may be apologetic to the victim.

Method of Operation

The Power Reassurance Rapist pre-selects his victims and has usually watched the victim. He selects victims who are alone or have small children.

This type of rapist usually will be a window peeper or seen prowling the neighborhood. The Power Reassurance Rapist attacks in his own neighborhood, he may walk to the scene of the attack, and he attacks in or near the victim's home. He attacks in the late evening to early morning hours and he will use the surprise approach.

The Power Reassurance Rapist typically will take a souvenir and may re-contact the victim. He builds confidence with his successes and he may keep records of his events.

Profile of the Power Reassurance Rapist:

- He has low self-esteem
- He is an under achiever
- He likely has a dominate mother
- He is non-athletic
- His education level is likely to be high school or lower
- If he dates, it will be with significantly younger females
- He fantasizes about rape
- He will experience premature ejaculation
- He is typically a white male
- He is nocturnal
- He may have a record for nuisance sexual offenses (window peeping)
- He is a loner – he doesn't have social skills
- He likely holds a menial job
- He will drive an older model car – due to his menial job, lower education, and low self-esteem

Interviewing the Power Reassurance Rapist

The interview of the Power Reassurance Rapist needs to be conducted in a non-threatening environment. The interviewer needs to use an empathic approach toward him; do not attack him but instead build him up and make him feel good about himself.

The Power Assertive Rapist

The Power Assertive Rapist is more violent in behavior than the Power Reassurance Rapist. The level of force used by the Power Assertive Rapist is normally moderate in nature however he can be excessive.

The sexual behavior exhibited by the Power Assertive Rapist is selfish in nature. He will do sexually what he wants to do. He does not try to involve the victim in the act; he uses the victim. The sexual behavior will include vaginal and/or anal intercourse.

The Power Assertive Rapist's verbal behavior is profane, threatening, and demanding. He is domineering and degrading in his conversation with the victim. His verbal behavior is very non-personal with the victim.

Method of Operation

The Power Assertive Rapist often meets his victims in bars and most often uses the con approach. He selects women in his own age group. Date rape falls within this category.

He attacks away from his neighborhood. He rips or tears off his victim's clothing and may experience retarded ejaculation. He will perform multiple sexual assaults; this may mean that he repeats sexual assaults on the same victim or he may commit rapes on multiple victims in a single night.

Profile of the Power Assertive Rapist:

- He is a macho type man
- He holds a male-oriented job
- He is likely married and divorced
- His attacks are sporadic in nature
- He is self-centered
- He is a flashy dresser
- His vehicle reflects his self-image
- He frequents singles bars
- Has likely been arrested for disturbances and resist arrest

Interviewing the Power Assertive Rapist

The interview of the Power Assertive Rapist needs to be conducted in a structured environment; he will try to challenge the interviewer. The interviewer needs to impose that he is the authority figure and is running the show. The interview must have done his homework and must let the Power Assertive Rapist know he has done his homework.

The Anger Retaliatory Rapist

The Anger Retaliatory Rapist uses excessive violence as he is angry at women and the purpose for the attack is to punish or degrade women. He is verbally selfish and sexually forceful.

Method of Operation

The Anger Retaliatory Rapist's crimes are spontaneous in nature and occur in episodic patterns. The attacks by the Anger Retaliatory Rapist can occur at anytime and he uses the blitz approach. The victims he selects may be symbolic to the episode that prompted the attack and he will spend a short time span with the victim. The Anger Retaliatory Rapist selects victims who are his age or older.

This type of rapist has usually been drinking prior to the assault. Since his motivation is directed by anger, he will experience retarded ejaculation.

Profile of the Anger Retaliatory Rapist:

- He has an explosive temper and personality
- He is an impulsive person
- He likely has been married before
- He is a Lone Wolf – he has the social skills and can function in society just prefers not to
- He often has an alcohol abuse problem
- He holds an action-oriented job
- He drives a vehicle that is commensurate with his status
- He rents his home

Interviewing the Anger Retaliatory Rapist

Because of his anger with women, this is the only rapist who likely cannot be interviewed by a female officer. It is a useful technique to have a female initially

present in the interview and then after she leaves, the male interviewer can use his anger of women to build rapport with the Anger Retaliatory Rapist.

The Anger Excitation Rapist

The Anger Excitation Rapist is the least frequent but the most violent. The purpose of the assault is total domination and control of the victim; to inflict physical and emotional pain (suffering). The Anger Excitation Rapist is a true sexual sadist.

Method of Operation

The Anger Excitation Rapist's crimes are premeditated and well thought out in detail. His attack pattern is impulsive. It is because of the detailed planning and the unpredictability of the attacks, that the Anger Excitation Rapist is hard to catch. The Anger Excitation Rapist plans every detail except for his victim; his victim is one of opportunity and his victims' ages may vary.

The Anger Excitation Rapist uses "con" approach however, once he gains control of his victim, his demeanor changes dramatically. Victims, if they survive, often describe their attacker as, "It was like I was with two people".

The Anger Excitation Rapist is selfish and brutal in his assault and will keep his victim for hours or days. He is a sexual experimenter; uses instruments and devices, sexual bondage, and will cut off his victim's clothing. Retarded ejaculation is common because of the need to be brutal and rough in the sexual acts. If the attack moves to a male victim, the sex acts will not change.

The Anger Excitation Rapist is likely to record his sexual activity so he can later go back and relive the experience.

Profile of the Anger Excitation Rapist:

- He will normally be a white male
- He is a family man
- He most often lives two separate lives (one normal, one bizarre)
- He is an outdoorsman
- He likely will have a gun and knife collection
- He likely reads detective magazines
- He likely will have no arrest record
- He is frequently a college graduate
- He is above average in intelligence
- He loves to drive
- He attacks because he gets bored with the norm
- He fantasizes and then acts out

Interviewing the Anger Excitation Rapist

The Anger Excitation Rapist will either have an attorney or feel he is so intellectual he does not need an attorney. The normal interview techniques will not work on the Anger Excitation Rapist. He will try and play mind games with the interviewer and therefore, he must be interviewed by a competent and intellectual interviewer.

MYTHS AND STEREOTYPES

Blaming the Victim

Resistance by the victim

In terms of struggle and force, a woman is socialized against aggressiveness and does not know how to fight successfully against a male. She is expected to be passive and submissive as a sexual partner, yet when confronted with rape, society now expects the woman to struggle, fight, and resist. When the woman fails to try to fight off her attacker, society willingly makes judgments as to the validity of the assault.

Reputation of the victim – Double standards – Male v. Female

In our society, women are under surveillance from their parents, their friends, their co-workers, their boyfriend, or husband. A woman's sexual activity is more closely scrutinized than a man's in the areas of:

Number of prior sexual relationships – women are expected to be “virgins” while men are praised for the number of women they have “conquered”

Types of sexual relationships – women are expected to be monogamist in their relationships while it is understood that men cannot be expected to “limit themselves to just one woman”

Provocative clothing – a woman who wears her blouse unbuttoned to show cleavage is a “slut” while a man who “bares his chest” is being a “stud”

Flirtatious behavior – a woman who “comes onto a man” is just asking to be raped while a man who “comes onto a woman” is viewed as being “smooth”

High risk / Low risk victims

High risk = a young female drinking at a club

Low risk = an elderly woman in her home

Does the young female, who was picked up by a guy at the club and then raped, deserve less consideration than the elderly woman who answered her door and was raped in her home by an intruder? The answer is absolutely not.

Emotionality of females

Females are assumed to be more emotional than males. The expectation is that when a woman is raped she will be hysterical and visibly upset. And when she is not emotional, society and uninformed law enforcement assume she was not really raped.

Reporting

One belief is the woman should be too ashamed to report the assault. While another belief is she should immediately report it and if there is a delay, it is a sign the rape did not actually occur. It must be understood many women are in shock, disbelief, and have guilty feelings following the assault so they don't always immediately report.

Reactions to Rape

There are two types of reactions to rape expressed by the victim's spouse, family, friends, acquaintances, medical personnel, law enforcement or the general public. Both have implications for the rape victim. She suffers from not only the physical and emotional attack from the incident, but also from the reactions of people to the myths and stereotypes surrounding the topic of rape. It is important for the law enforcement officer in contact with the victim to be aware of these two kinds of reactions.

Intuitive reaction (Immediate or gut response)

Anger and revenge – most often will be immediate in occurrence. Can be expressed physically, verbally, or both.

Avoidance and silence – sexuality is not openly discussed in American society, and criminal sexuality is discussed even less. Awkwardness and uneasiness occurs, society thinks it is “sparing” the victim when in fact, usually, society is sparing themselves.

Depression – caused by the helplessness of not knowing what to do for the victim and viewing the trauma the victim is experiencing long after the assault.

Sympathy – most often shown to the young, elderly, or severely injured.

Voyeurism – there is an aspect of rape some people find fascinating. These individuals may make strange and inappropriate remarks, such as asking about details of the assault.

Subjective reaction (Biased response)

This problem exists because family, friends, authorities, and the general public often have in their minds an image of rape that does not allow rape scenarios outside the parameters of that image. These preconceived ideas include but is not limited to, the following:

- Only bad girls get raped
- Any woman can resist a rapist if she wants to
- A rapist is a sex-starved maniac
- Most women ask for it
- You can't thread a moving needle

Biggest Rape Myth

Rape is a crime about SEX

Truth:

- Rape is not a crime about sex
- Rape is about power, control, and anger
- Sex is not the motive for the assault
- Sex is the weapon used to complete the crime

SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIMOLOGY

Individuals who become victims of criminal activity, all experience an impact from the crisis. The degree of the crisis correlates to the seriousness of the crime that was perpetrated against the individual, resulting in various degrees of victimology. As stated in the introduction, a crime of sexual assault is one of the most serious crimes a law enforcement officer will investigate.

The crisis impact is related to three factors:

1. Suddenness – when an individual can foresee the stressful event, the advance notice permits time to prepare; when the stressful event is not foreseen, there is no time to prepare and the impact is more devastating.
2. Arbitrariness – the individual asks, “why me?” “Why did this happen to me?”
3. Unpredictability – it is the unpredictability that complicates the stressful event leading to a crisis reaction.

Symptoms of a sexual assault crisis reaction:

- Fear – the fear a rape victim experiences will exist long after the assault. There may be times where the victim will never totally overcome the fearful reaction triggered by the incident.
- Guilt – the rape victim assumes some fault for the assault, therefore it is imperative the law enforcement officer assures the victim she is not to blame, repeating the message numerous times.
- Anger – the anger the rape victim vents may be directed at the police, at family members, medical personnel, etc. The law enforcement officer must understand the real target of the rape victim’s anger is the rapist, but he is not present so the anger is directed towards those who are available.

RAPE TRAUMA SYNDROME

Rape Trauma Syndrome:

Stress response pattern of the victim following forced, non-consenting sexual activity. It consists of somatic, psychological, and behavioral symptoms resulting from an active stress reaction to a life-threatening situation.

It is a model used by rape crisis centers to identify the healing process of sexual assault victims. It was first described by Ann Burgess and Lynda Holmstrom in 1974. There are generally three stages or phases that are recognized in the Rape Trauma Syndrome although the phases may be referred to by different names. The three phases often overlap and vary in duration from victim to victim. And it must be understood that victims will take steps forward and backwards in their healing process.

Stage One / Acute Phase

The acute phase is the immediate impact reaction displayed by the victim that starts during the assault and can last for several weeks. This is the reaction the first responding law enforcement officers will observe and can involve shock, embarrassment, humiliation, guilt, self-blame, anger, fear, and confusion. There are two types of reactions within the acute phase:

1. **Emotional reaction** is an expressed response and includes:
 - the victim crying, laughing, shaking
 - the victim showing anger, fear, confusion
 - the victim being hysterical, embarrassed, humiliated
2. **Controlled reaction** is a guarded response and includes:
 - the victim showing a calm and composed demeanor
 - the victim being in denial – may conduct “busy work” as you try to talk to her
 - the victim may be in shock

Law enforcement officers who do not observe the type of reaction *they* believe is normal for a rape victim, may wrongly conclude the victim is fabricating the sexual assault report. When in fact, the controlled reaction victim is not lying, but rather; is able to control her emotions, is in shock, or is physically exhausted.

Example: A 24 year old single woman was sexually assaulted in the laundry room of her apartment complex. Following the attempted assault she went back to her apartment where she washed the dishes, vacuumed the carpet, ironed, and then sat on her bed the rest of the night. At 9:00 a.m. the next morning, her co-workers called because she had not arrived for work. She was still sitting on her bed when they arrived to help her.

The victim stated she was not raped and had managed to get away from her attacker. During the investigation, a suspect was developed who lived near the victim. The victim picked the suspect from a photo array line-up, but stated she was not sure it was him because she knew he had a wife and kids. The denial and shock were obvious in this case. The victim in this case also had her own stereotype of a rapist and she could not reconcile that image with the fact that her rapist was married with children. The victim in this case was in fact sexually assaulted.

Physical reactions of the victim during the acute phase:

- General feeling of soreness – can be the result of the victim tensing up her muscles during the assault or due to the suspect being physically rough with the victim during the assault
- Body area that has been the focus of the assault – may be the vaginal or rectal cavity; could also include the breasts if the suspect bit the victim

Stage Two / Outward Adjustment Phase

The Outward Adjustment Phase can last from several weeks to several years. On the outside, it may appear the victim is adjusting back into the routine she

maintained before the sexual assault. However, it may be a façade, a coping mechanism, utilized by the victim in an attempt to get some normative, some control back into her life. Or the victim may withdraw from her social and personal relationships with friends and family. Excessive displays of anger may be exhibited during this time. Support from the victim's spouse, family, friends, and co-workers play a major roll in shortening this phase.

Reactions or behaviors displayed by the victim during the outward adjustment phase:

- Suppress memories – in an attempt to forget and move on with her life, the victim attempts to suppress the memories of the assault.
- Reluctant to talk about the assault – using the victim's thought process, talking about the assault makes it impossible to suppress the memories and therefore, in her mind, restricts her ability to move on with her life.
- Interest in seeking help diminishes – the victim, who initially seemed favorable to getting professional counseling, now is less receptive, because any counselor is going to insist the victim talk about the incident and all she wants to do is forget, suppress, and move on.

Note: Every rape victim needs to receive professional counseling and the investigating officer must ensure these resources are made known to the victim.

- Resumes normal activities – the act of resuming normal activities is the victim's plan to put the assault behind her and to make those close to her believe all is well in her world.
- High-risk behaviors – victims may display behaviors that would be viewed as putting her at risk to become a victim again. In other words a victim may drink heavily or become very sexually active; these are attempts by the victim to take back control of their lives.
- Flashbacks – the victim may experience frightening flashbacks of the assault during her waking hours. These can occur when the victim finds herself in surroundings similar to those that existed when she was assaulted or while having consensual intercourse with a partner.
- Dreams / nightmares – the victim can experience vivid dreams and recurrent nightmares replicating the victimization and helplessness she felt during the assault. She may also experience symbolic dreams that include a theme of rape.
- Phobias – this would include excessive fears such as of crowds, or being alone, of the dark, of sleeping, etc. Acquaintances of the victim may view her as becoming paranoid because of the phobias she is experiencing.

Examples:

Fear of going outside – because she feels vulnerable outside the safety of her home. The attack may have occurred outside the confines of her home and she believes he is outside watching her.

Fear of being alone – because there is safety in numbers and she was alone when she was raped.

Fear of people positioned behind her – because the rapist approached her from behind and caught her off-guard.

- Depression / Suicide ideation – the sense of hopelessness becomes overpowering and there seems to be no apparent help so depression can set in. If the hopelessness mindset goes unchecked, then thoughts of suicide can begin to surface. Again this is why it is extremely important that all rape victims receive professional counseling so these conditions can be addressed.
- Sleep pattern disturbances – the victim may suffer from insomnia or may sleep excessively.
- Eating pattern disturbances – the victim may experience nausea, vomiting, a loss of appetite, or may begin overeating.

Stage Three / Resolution Phase

This is the time when the victim will move forward in her healing process. The Resolution Phase also is referred to as the Integration Phase in some models. During this stage, the victim integrates the assault into her life so the incident is no longer the daily central focus. She is now able to go through her daily activities without having constant memories of the assault. The victim's feelings of guilt and anger must be resolved to make the successful adjustment back to her normal activities.

The victim may still experience some of the feelings and behaviors identified in the previous stages however those feelings and behaviors will not be as intense or occur as frequent. Those things that were disrupting her life are now allowing her to make good decisions regarding the direction of her life.

The investigating officer must understand that sexual assault is usually a life-altering experience for the victim. Although a victim may appear to "be in" the resolution phase, she may be in flux and a triggering stimuli can push her back into reliving the traumatic event. There is no time line of healing for the sexual assault victim; no "right way" to process the trauma. Memories of the assault will always cause pain for the victim and it is not something the victim "gets over". In time the pain subsides. This process is similar to the way people cope with the death of a loved one or other losses.

STATE STATUTES

K.S.A. 21-5501 Definitions

Sexual intercourse: Any penetration of the female sex organ by a finger, the male sex organ or any object. Any penetration, however slight, is sufficient to constitute sexual intercourse.

Sodomy: Oral contact or oral penetration of the female genitalia or oral contact of the male genitalia; anal penetration, however slight, of a male or female by any

body part or object; or oral or anal copulation or sexual intercourse between a person and an animal.

K.S.A. 21-5503 Rape (in part)

(a) Rape is:

(1) Knowingly engaging in sexual intercourse with a victim who does not consent to the sexual intercourse under any of the following circumstances:

- (A) When the victim is overcome by force or fear; or
- (B) when the victim is unconscious or physically powerless;

(2) Knowingly engaging sexual intercourse with a victim when the victim is incapable of giving consent because of mental deficiency or disease, or when the victim is incapable of giving consent because of the effect of any alcoholic liquor, narcotic, drug or other substance, which condition was known by the offender or was reasonably apparent to the offender;

(3) sexual intercourse with a child who is under 14 years of age;

(4) sexual intercourse with a victim when the victim's consent was obtained through a knowing misrepresentation made by the offender that the sexual intercourse was a medically or therapeutically necessary procedure; or

(5) sexual intercourse with a victim when the victim's consent was obtained through a knowing misrepresentation made by the offender that the sexual intercourse was a legally required procedure within the scope of the offender's authority.

(d) It shall be a defense to a prosecution of rape under subsection (a)(3) that the child was married to the accused at the time of the offense.

K.S.A. 21-3506 Aggravated Criminal Sodomy (in part)

(b) Aggravated criminal sodomy is:

(1) Sodomy with a child who is under 14 years of age;

(2) causing a child under 14 years of age to engage in sodomy with any person or an animal; or

(3) sodomy with a victim who does not consent to the sodomy or causing a victim, without the victim's consent, to engage in sodomy with any person or an animal under any of the following circumstances:

- (A) When the victim is overcome by force or fear;
- (B) when the victim is unconscious or physically powerless; or
- (C) when the victim is incapable of giving consent because of mental deficiency or disease, or when the victim is incapable of giving consent because of the effect of any alcoholic liquor, narcotic, drug or other substance, which condition was known by, or was reasonably apparent to, the offender.

- (e) It shall be a defense to a prosecution of aggravated criminal sodomy under subsection (b)(1), that the child was married to the accused at the time of the offense.

The Kansas Offender Registration Act

The Kansas Sex Offender Registration Act was established in 1993 and has undergone numerous amendments over the years. The act was retitled The Kansas Offender Registration Act and today includes the registry of certain sex, violent and drug offenses. The act can be reviewed under K.S.A. 22-4901 through 22-4911 and 22-4913.

Purposes of the offender registration act, in regards to sexual offenders, include:

- to track convicted sex offenders residing in the state of Kansas
- to assist law enforcement in the investigation of sexual offenses
- to provide a sense of security to the citizens and communities of the state of Kansas

Law enforcement and citizens can access the official website for the Kansas Offender Registration, at the following address:

www.accesskansas.org/kbi/ro.shtml

K.S.A. 22-4904 Registration of offender; duties of the courts, the registering law enforcement agency; *(in part)*

(a)(1)(C) At the time of sentencing or disposition for an offense requiring registration, the court shall order the offender to report within three business days to the registering law enforcement agency in the county or tribal land of conviction or adjudication and to the registering law enforcement agency in any place where the offender resides, maintains employment or attends school, to complete the registration form with all information and any updated information required for registration.

- (d) The registering law enforcement agency, upon the reporting of any offender, shall:
- (1) Inform the offender of the duty to register as provided by the Kansas offender registration act;
 - (2)(A) Explain the procedure for registration and the offender's registration requirements
 - (B) obtain the information required for registration
 - (C) require the offender to read and sign the registration form
 - (3) complete the registration form with all information and updated information required for registration each time the offender reports to the registering law enforcement agency.
 - (4) maintain the original signed registration form, provide one copy of the completed registration form to the offender and, within three business days, send one copy of the completed form to the Kansas bureau of investigation;
 - (5) obtain registration information from every offender required to register regardless of whether or not the offender remits payment.
 - (6) upon every required reporting, update the photograph or photographs of the offender's face and any new identifying marks and immediately forward copies or electronic files of the photographs to the Kansas bureau of investigation;
 - (7) enter all offender information required by the national crime information center into the national sex offender registry system within three days of completing the registration;

- (8) maintain a special fund for the deposit and maintenance of fees paid by offenders.
- (9) forward any initial registration and updated registration information within three days to any out of state jurisdiction where the offender is expected to reside, maintain employment or attend school.

Penalty for failure to comply with the requirements of the sexual offender registration act is found under K.S.A. 22-4903:

Any person who is required to register as provided in the act who violates any of the provisions of the act is guilty of a felony.

DATE RAPE DRUGS

Date rape drugs are also referred to as predatory drugs; so named because of their use to assist in the facilitation of sexual assaults. A drug-facilitated rape is defined as sexual assault made easier by the suspect's use of an anesthetic-type drug that renders the victim physically incapacitated or helpless and unable to consent to sexual activity. Whether the victim is unwittingly administered the drug or willingly ingests it for recreational use is irrelevant, the victim is unable to consciously consent to sexual acts. Kansas state law confirms this definition in the elements of Rape 21-3502.

The two most common date rape drugs are Gamma Hydroxy Butyrate (GHB) and Rohypnol. These drugs are central nervous system depressants and render the victim incapable of resisting sexual advances.

Sexual assault facilitated by these drugs can be difficult to prosecute for the following reasons:

- the victim may not be aware she ingested the drugs
- delay in reporting the crime due to the effects of the drugs
- the drugs metabolize in the body very quickly leaving little chance of recovering drug evidence to support the victim's claim
- memory impairment limits evidence of the assault as the victim cannot recall details
- lack of training in the law enforcement profession to recognize, gather, and process evidence to help support the victim's claim

GHB

Effects of GHB

Once ingested, GHB takes effect in 15-30 minutes. When taken with alcohol or other drugs, the results are intensified and can be fatal. The sought after effect produces a euphoric high, enhanced sexual feelings and relaxation. Users feel more energetic, happy, and extroverted.

At lower doses, GHB causes drowsiness, nausea, and visual disturbances. At higher dosages, the drug's effects include unconsciousness, seizures, severe respiratory depression, coma, and even death.

Most symptoms last 3 to 6 hours; the drowsiness and weakness can last for up to 3 days, and the confusion for several weeks depending on the strength of the dosage.

Investigative issues with GHB

GHB is found in clear liquid form, tablets, or a white powder that looks like white laundry flakes. GHB is frequently described as having a salty taste, however when dissolved in soda, fruit juice, or alcohol drinks, the salty taste is undetectable. GHB remains in the blood for only 4 hours however, detection in the urine can be up to 12 hours.

Rohypnol

Effects of Rohypnol

Once ingested, Rohypnol takes effect in 15-20 minutes.

Symptoms include an alcohol type stupor, slurred speech, confusion, sleepiness, and memory impairment. Individuals will experience difficulty with motor movements, loss of muscle control or muscle relaxation and dizziness.

Most symptoms last 4 to 6 hours however, some may last up to 12 hours.

Investigative issues with Rohypnol

Rohypnol is manufactured in tablet form, round or oval in shape. The old, white tablet, that is still available on the market, when dissolved in liquid, is colorless. The manufacturer has developed an olive green, oblong tablet, imprinted with the number 542; this tablet includes a dye that when placed in a drink, turns blue in color, increasing visibility. Rohypnol is odorless and tasteless. Rohypnol remains in the blood for only 2 to 4 hours after ingestion but can be detected in urine for up to 72 hours.

Note: It is not uncommon for the drug-rapist to videotape or photograph his victim; therefore the law enforcement officer should be alert to any such evidence. Such evidence would include videos, camera equipment, or film receipts that may implicate the rapist.

THE CRIME SCENE AND EVIDENCE COLLECTION

The Crime Scene

The crime scene is any area where evidence can be found. The investigation of a sexual assault can involve several different crime scenes, all of which must be processed for evidence.

Areas of evidence include but are not limited to:

- The area(s) where the assault occurred
- The body and clothing of the victim
- The body and clothing of the suspect
- Anywhere the victim was moved
- The residence and/or vehicle of the suspect

Evidence that could be found at the various crime scenes would include but is not limited to the following:

- The area(s) where the assault occurred
 - The point of entry
 - Areas of struggle
 - Fingerprints
 - Point of exit
 - The victim's blood
 - The suspect's blood
 - Body fluids (semen, saliva, urine)
 - Lubricants
 - Bedding
 - Towels
 - Hair (head & pubic)
 - Weapons
 - Fibers
 - Bondage material
- The body and clothing of the victim
 - The victim's blood
 - The suspect's blood
 - Body fluids (semen, saliva, urine)
 - Lubricants
 - Fingerprints
 - Hair (head & pubic)
 - Fibers
 - Bondage material
 - Injuries to the victim
 - Bruises
 - Abrasions
 - Bite marks
 - Hemorrhage of eyes
 - Slash or cut wounds
- The body and clothing of the suspect
 - The victim's blood
 - The suspect's blood
 - Body fluids (semen, saliva, urine)
 - Lubricants
 - Fingerprints
 - Hair (head & pubic)
 - Fibers
 - Injuries to the suspect
 - Bruises
 - Scratches
 - Bite marks
 - Cuts
- Anywhere the victim was moved
 - Areas of struggle
 - Fingerprints
 - The victim's blood
 - The suspect's blood
 - Body fluids (semen, saliva, urine)
 - Lubricants
 - Bedding
 - Towels
 - Hair (head & pubic)
 - Weapons
 - Fibers
 - Bondage material
- The suspect's residence or vehicle
 - Areas of struggle
 - Fingerprints
 - The victim's blood
 - The suspect's blood
 - Body fluids (semen, saliva, urine)
 - Lubricants
 - Bedding
 - Towels
 - Hair (head & pubic)
 - Weapons
 - Fibers
 - Bondage material
 - Any evidence from other sexual assaults

Note: Injuries should be photographed at the time of the report and later to document the progression of injury intensity for the investigation process.

Note: Never assume that just because the rape suspect was wearing gloves that there is no need to look for fingerprints at the various crime scenes. The victim may not be aware of the fact he took the gloves off at some point and put them back on again. Always be thorough when processing a crime scene, your decision to curtail the evidence discovery process may very well prevent the suspect from being apprehended and/or prosecuted.

In addition to the possible evidence already listed, the investigating officer should always look for items left behind by the suspect. These items could be anything the suspect brought with him but forgot to take when he left including cigarette butts, articles of clothing, billfold, papers, weapons, his "rape kit", etc.

The Medical Examination

The victim of a sexual assault should be taken to a medical facility for treatment. If at all possible, the victim should be taken to a medical facility where a SANE/SART unit (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner / Sexual Assault Response Team) is on staff. The role of the hospital medical personnel include:

- Examination of the victim
- Medical treatment of the victim
- Completion of the Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kit
- Provide any facts to the investigating officer discovered during their contact with the victim
- Provide courtroom testimony as is necessary

The law enforcement officer should not rely on the medical personnel to interview the victim for him. The information being sought from the medical examination is only a small part of the complete interview the investigating officer needs to gather for his report.

Seminal evidence:

Seminal evidence can generally be collected from body cavities, 72 hours out from the time of the assault to the time of the collection. Seminal evidence can be collected from body cavities even if the victim was required to wash, shower, bath, or douche following the attack. **Dried seminal evidence**, such as on the victim's body, on her clothing, on the bedding, or on the seat of a vehicle, will last indefinitely.

The Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kit

The Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kit will to be completed by a nurse or a doctor; again it is recommended the victim be taken to a medical facility supported by a SANE/SART Unit. The kit is provided by the KBI to all hospitals, and the cost of the examination for the completion of the kit is free to the victim. The county where the assault occurred pays for the costs. The victim will pay any additional medical treatment costs, outside of the Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kit.

- Completion of the Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kit:
 - Forms will be completed
 - Clothing – separate bags are included for the collection of the victim's clothing
 - Samples taken:
 - Hair – known head and pubic hairs are pulled from the victim
 - Blood – a known sample is drawn from the victim
 - Swabs – vaginal, oral, and rectal swabs are collected as dictated by the provided information of the assault as well as swabs for saliva on the victim's breasts, thigh, neck, etc.

- Scrapings – fingernail scrapings are collected

The medical personnel will hand the investigating officer the completed Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kit. The investigating officer will submit the kit as evidence and the kit needs to be refrigerated to maintain the evidence's integrity.

THE VICTIM INTERVIEW

Every investigating officer must remember:

THE GOAL OF EVERY RAPE VICTIM IS TO SURVIVE THE ATTACK

THE NEED OF EVERY RAPE VICTIM IS TO BE BELIEVED

Initial Contact with the Victim

The victim is going to be asked to discuss with a stranger (law enforcement) the details of probably the most traumatic, personal experience of her life. How law enforcement responds to the victim is directly proportional to the emotional recovery of the victim and the information received by law enforcement. One of the greatest needs of a rape victim is to be believed.

During the law enforcement officer introduction, the officer should introduce himself by name and agency. In addition, the officer should address three important topics during the introduction:

- Express regret the victim was assaulted
- Assure her the assault was not her fault
- Assure the victim of her safety

The officer must allow the victim as much control as possible during the interview process. The purpose for allowing the victim control is to start the recovery process. During the assault all control was exhibited by the rapist and removed from the victim. It is important to permit her to make decisions, even if they seem minute to you the officer. The investigating officer must ensure that any decisions the victim is permitted to make does not jeopardize the investigation and possibly destroy evidence.

Ask her:

- How would she like to be addressed?
- Where would she like to sit?
- Which hospital would she like to go to?
- Would she like water, coffee, or a soda?
- Would she like the door open or closed?
- Would she like a victim advocate in the interview with her?
- Would she like medical personnel to remain in the room at the hospital?

Involving the Victim

As you begin the interview process, involve the victim. The victim is experiencing anxiety and the more informed she is of what is currently occurring and what to expect as the investigation continues, the anxiety is less likely to escalate. The officer would want to:

- Explain the procedures
Talk about the processing of the crime scene(s) and the need to collect evidence, including the medical examination and the sexual assault evidence collection kit procedures.
- Ask her for her opinions during the interview
It may be as simple as asking "Do you think you can do that for us?" or "Do you think that would be OK?" or "How do you think he got into your house?", etc.
- Explain why certain questions must be asked
The interviewing officer must ask very specific and very personal questions, explain why it is necessary to ask such questions and that you are not trying to embarrass or humiliate her. Tell her how the information she provides will be useful to the investigation.
- Do not ask judgmental questions
The interviewing officer must remember the victim is usually experiencing guilt for the assault and is already questioning herself over some of the decisions she made, the officer must not add to this state of mind by asking judgmental questions of the victim. Such questions that should not be asked include "What were you doing walking around in this area alone?" or "Why would you get into a car with a man you didn't know?" or "Why would you leave your doors unlocked?" or "Why didn't you run?", etc.
- Use terminology in which the victim is familiar
The officer must always be professional. The officer should always begin by using adult terminology however, he has to make certain he and the victim are speaking the same language to ensure the information he is gathering about the assault is accurate. If the officer determines the victim does not understand the terminology he is using, it is the officer's responsibility to use terminology the victim understands. If the officer is sensing a communication problem, the officer must adjust and alter the terms he is using in order to factually document the sex acts. The officer cannot allow his own "comfort zone" to deter him from gathering the information needed to investigate the incident. It may take two or three terms before the victim understands you are attempting to determine if the rapist ejaculated, or to find a common term when discussing the rapist's penis, or to learn if the rapist had the victim perform fellatio on him.

Pertinent questions need to be asked by the investigating officer to determine the elements of the crime or crimes that occurred. In addition to establishing all elements of the crime or crimes, the officer must determine the type and sequence of the sexual acts and if the rapist had the victim perform repetitious acts. The information gathered from asking these questions is necessary to determine what criminal charges can be filed, as well as directing the recovery and collection of physical evidence, and assisting in the typology of the offender.

Information to Inquire On:

Method of approach used by the rapist:

The approach reveals the personality of the rapist. There are three types of approaches used by rapists:

- Con approach – the rapist uses ruses, tricks, or finesse to approach the victim. The rapist who uses such an approach shows he is confident in his ability to persuade the victim into accompanying him.
- Surprise approach – the rapist approaches the victim from behind, from hiding, or quietly in or around the victim's residence. The rapist who uses such an approach shows he lacks confidence and needs to gain control of his victim in a more private setting and without giving the victim any notice.
- Blitz approach – the rapist uses immediate force, even without resistance from the victim. The rapist who uses such an approach is angry and has no qualms about inflicting pain to send a message to the victim that he is in control.

Behavior exhibited by the rapist:

There are three types of behavior exhibited by a rapist:

- Physical – the amount of force used by the rapist toward the victim. This category will be covered in greater detail in the category of "Level of force by the rapist" on page 18.
- Verbal – any threats, demands, statements, or profanity used by the rapist. It is important to document what the victim tells the investigating officer the rapist said to her during the assault. This information needs to be as exact as possible. The words a rapist use shows his intent. Rapists also tend to say the same phrases in each of their rapes or have the victim repeat the same phrases.
- Sexual – all sex acts performed by the rapist on the victim or demanded the victim perform on him; these acts include anything from kissing to intercourse.

Forms of resistance by the victim:

There are three types of resistance that can be exhibited by the victim:

- Physical – physical resistance can include acts such as struggling, fighting, kicking, hitting, biting, slapping, running away, etc.
- Verbal – verbal resistance can include acts such as saying no to the rapist, trying to talk him out of the act using whatever reasoning, to pleading with him, to screaming, etc.
- Passive – passive resistance is non-compliance to a demand made by the rapist. This type of resistance is often overlooked by the investigating officer because he does not recognize the victim's "inaction" as resistance.

Note: During the course of the assault, the victim may not exhibit any of the forms or she may use one, two, or all three of the forms of resistance. It should also be noted that while resistance by the victim may result in the rapist leaving, most often resistance only delays the assault from taking place.

The investigating officer must understand **COOPERATION ON THE VICTIM'S PART DOES NOT MEAN CONSENT!** Just because the victim does not display any form of resistance does not mean the act is not a sexual assault.

Reaction of the rapist to any resistance by the victim:

- Rapist leaves – if the rapist leaves in response to meeting resistance from the victim it indicates the rapist had no motivation to hurt the victim.
- Suspect ignores the form of resistance – if the rapist shows no response to meeting resistance from the victim and continues assaulting the victim, it again indicates the rapist had no motivation to hurt the victim.
- Verbally threaten – if the rapist verbally threatens the victim in response to resistance from the victim, the key question then is, “Did he follow through?”; this aspect is covered under the category of “How the rapist maintained control of the victim”.
- Compromise or negotiation – is the rapist willing to negotiate and compromise with the victim in response to the victim’s resistance? The investigating officer must understand the victim is not consenting when she negotiates with a rapist to perform one sex act over another. Again, what may appear as an agreement by the victim through compromise or negotiation DOES NOT EQUAL CONSENT!
- Uses force – if the rapist’s response to resistance by the victim is to use force, then the question is, “How much force, what type of force, and how was it applied?”; this aspect is covered under the category of “How the rapist maintained control of the victim”.

How the rapist maintained control of the victim:

In order for the investigating officer to understand how the rapist maintained control over the victim comes into play, he must first know the level of resistance displayed by the victim when the control was being applied.

Mere presence of the rapist – may speak to the “positioning” the rapist takes or may speak to the victim’s state of mind

Threats made by the rapist

- Did the rapist use threats?
- What were the threats?
- Did he display a weapon?
- If he used threats was it without resistance from the victim?
- If he used threats was it immediately following resistance from the victim?
- Did he follow through with his threats? – speaks to his personality
- Did he not follow through because the victim’s resistance subsided?
- Did he not follow through even though the victim’s resistance did not subside?
- Did he follow through even though the victim’s resistance subsided?

Use of force – factor in determining the rapist's motive

- Did he use force even though the victim was complying?
- What type of force did he use?
 - Did he twist her arm? Did he pull her by her hair?
 - Did he slap her? Did he hit her with a closed fist?
 - Did he hit her across the face or in the stomach?
 - Did he strike her with an object? If so what was it and where did he hit her?
- What did he say to the victim as he used the force?
- What occurred immediately before he used the force?

Level of force used by the rapist:

In order to accurately interpret the information provided by the victim, the investigating officer must use his observation powers and know the background of the victim. A victim who has never experienced any type of violence may view a slap across the face, as being beaten, while a victim, who has experienced much violence in her life, will tell you the rapist used no force against her.

The following four categories speak in general terms:

- Minimum – done by the rapist to intimidate the victim; would include no force to mild slapping
- Moderate – can be painful in nature; can be done by the rapist in absence of resistance by the victim
- Excessive – the rapist severely beats the victim; would include bruises, broken bones, etc., and likely would result in hospitalization
- Brutal – the rapist who brutally beats the victim would fall in the sexual sadist category, will result in extended hospitalization, and possible death of the victim

Sexual Acts, Sequence, and Repetitions:

The information gathered from asking questions regarding the sexual acts, the sequence of the acts and repetition of the acts, is necessary to determine what criminal charges can be filed, as well as directing the recovery and collection of physical evidence, and assisting in establishing the typology of the offender.

- Sexual acts – the type of sexual acts a rapist has the victim perform on him or he performs on her is necessary to determine what charges can be filed against the rapist; it also speaks to the personality of the rapist.
- Sequence of the sexual acts – the order of the sexual acts the rapist has the victim perform on him or he performs on her is necessary because it also speaks to the personality of the rapist and is useful in the criminal analysis stage of the follow up investigation.
- Repetitions of the sexual acts – the number of separate times a rapist performs an act on the victim or has the victim perform an act on him is useful again when filing charges for the number of counts against the rapist; and again is useful in the criminal analysis stage of the investigation.

Note: The victim may not tell the investigating officer all of the acts, repetitions or the exact sequence because she is too embarrassed to admit what all the acts were, how many times, and in what order. She also may not understand the importance of doing so; it is the investigating officer's job to obtain the information and to explain to the victim his need to ask such personal questions.

Sexual dysfunction of the rapist:

Sexual Dysfunction – sexual dysfunction is a defect in the desire for, or the ability to achieve sexual gratification.

Forms of dysfunction:

- Primary erectile insufficiency – is a medical condition and is not a concern in sexual assault investigations
- Secondary erectile insufficiency – currently unable to get an erection; caused by stress
- Conditional erectile insufficiency – conditioned to a certain stimuli in order to obtain an erection and when the stimuli is missing is unable to obtain an erection
- Premature ejaculation – due to performance anxiety and/or low self-esteem
- Retarded ejaculation – requires sex for a prolonged period of time before ejaculation can occur – is directly related to anger

The investigating officer would want to ask the victim if she was told or forced to do anything to help the rapist attain an erection. And if so, what it was.

Steps taken by the rapist to protect his identity:

When discussing any steps the rapist took to protect his identity, the investigating officer needs to inquire on any conversation the rapist had with the victim or the victim had with the rapist about the need for him to protect his identity. The following is a list of steps that might be taken by the rapist to protect his identity from the victim:

- Turned off lights
 - What lights were on before he turned them off?
 - Where is the lightswitch to the light?
- Covered the victim's eyes
 - What did he use?
 - Did he bring the cover item with him?
 - When and how did he apply the cover?
- Covered his face - wore a ski mask, a bandanna, mask, etc.
 - Did the rapist have the cover on when he contacted the victim?
 - Did he wear the cover the entire time?
 - If not, when did he put the cover on? When did he take the cover off?
 - How many openings did the cover have?
 - Get a description of the cover

- Gloves
 - Did the rapist have them on when he contacted the victim?
 - Did he wear them the entire time?
 - If not, when did he put them on? When did he take them off?
 - After he took them off, did he touch anything?
 - What kind were they? Cotton? Hospital? Cleaning?
 - Get a description of the gloves
- Had the victim wash / bathe / shower / or douche
 - Shows some experience on the part of the rapist
 - Does not destroy vaginal vault evidence
- Took bedding and towels
 - Shows experience on the part of the rapist
 - Get a description of the bedding and towels
- Brought own "rape kit"
 - Shows experience on the part of the rapist
 - What did the rapist bring?
 - Weapon? Rope? Tape? Camera? Pillowcase? Lubricants? Clothing? Sexual devices?
- Miscellaneous – these show experience on the part of the rapist as well
 - Took his cigarette butts with him
 - Took any drink container he drank from with him
 - Took the clothing the victim had been wearing

Steps taken by the rapist to facilitate his escape:

When discussing any steps the rapist took to facilitate his escape, the investigating officer needs to inquire about any conversation the rapist had with the victim or any conversation the victim had with the rapist reference his plan for his escape. The following is a list of steps that might be taken by the rapist to facilitate his escape from the sexual assault scene:

- Restricts the victim's freedom
 - Shows some experience on the part of the rapist
 - Did the rapist tie the victim up?
 - Did the rapist cover her mouth so she could not scream?
 - Did the rapist lock the victim in a room? Basement? Bathroom?
- Disables or takes the phone(s)
 - Shows some experience on the part of the rapist
 - How was the phone(s) disabled?
 - If the rapist took the phone(s), get a description
 - What type of phone was taken? Cellular?
 - Has anyone called the victim's cellular? Did the rapist answer?
- Path cleared for quick escape
 - Shows experience on the part of the rapist
 - Did the rapist close interior doors or leave them open?
 - Did the rapist move furniture to eliminate obstacles to the point of exit?
 - Did the rapist lock exterior doors or leave them unlocked? Or open?

- Threatens
 - Did the rapist threaten the victim with a weapon before leaving?
 - Did the rapist threaten the victim's family / children before leaving?
 - Did the rapist threaten the victim he would return before leaving?
 - Did the rapist tell the victim to count to a certain number or wait a certain length of time?

Property loss from the victim:

The investigating officer needs to ask the victim if the rapist took any of her property when he left the assault scene. The rapist takes the victim's property for one of several reasons:

- for his personal use
- to sell and make money
- as a souvenir
- as a trophy

The types of items taken can be useful in determining the rapist's motivation.

- Stereo, TVs, VCRs, DVDs, jewelry, etc.
 - Shows experience as a burglar
 - Taken for either personal use or to sell and make money
 - Generally shows inexperience as a rapist
 - Note: the taking of jewelry may serve as a souvenir or trophy; see personal items below
- Cash
 - Generally shows experience as a rapist or a burglar
 - Taken for personal use
 - Cannot generally be traced
- Personal items of the victim's
 - Can be almost anything including photos, underwear, jewelry, driver's license
 - Involves a fantasy
 - Speaks to the personality of the rapist
 - Taken by the rapist as either a souvenir or a trophy
 - Souvenir – the rapist associates the object with fond memories; he uses the object to relive the event
 - Trophy – the rapist associates the object with a conquest

FALSE ALLEGATIONS OF RAPE

False Rape Allegation: None of the components of rape, the act, the perpetrator or the setting are true.

False rape allegations motivations:

- To deceive by psychological needs for attention
 - Example:*
A woman's husband works the graveyard shift. She wants him to work day shift so he can be home with her at night. She reports being raped in her home to get him to get his work hours changed.
- To deceive by needs for financial gain

Example:

A woman reports being raped by a prominent man in town in an attempt to get him to pay her money.

- To deceive due to the complainant's delusional or psychotic state of mind; this is referred to as delusional rape

Example:

The woman reports she was raped because, in her mind she experienced the attack.

- Sex Stress Situations:

Sex stress situations occur when the reporting party has had consensual sex with a partner where something went wrong. The "something wrong" usually occurs when a third party finds out and that person defined the situation as rape and the reporting party goes along with the assumption or the third party causes the reporting party to say that it was rape. The sex act(s) occurred, but the nonconsensual element of the crime is false.

Examples:

Wife or girlfriend cheats on her husband or boyfriend by having consensual sex with another man. When the husband or boyfriend finds out, she says she was raped, the police are called and the investigation begins.

A woman contracts a sexually transmitted disease and to cover with whom she has had consensual sex, she says she was raped.

A woman gets pregnant by having consensual sex, and to avoid the "social stigma" she says she was raped.

A woman has consensual sex with a man who is "socially below her class" and when her friends learn of the situation, the woman says she was raped to save face in her social circle.

Red Flags for False Allegations:

- Injuries:
 - Complainant is indifferent to her injuries
 - Hesitation marks are present on cut injuries
 - Injuries were extensive, but do not involve sensitive areas (lips, nipples, genitals)
- Conflicting facts:
 - Injuries to clothing do not match injuries to body
 - Crime scene does not support the account provided
- Vagueness:
 - Cannot describe the rapist because her eyes were closed
 - Unable to describe details and sequence of the sexual acts
 - Cannot recall where the crime took place even though she was not blindfolded or under the influence of alcohol or drugs
- Pressing too hard:
 - Claims of vigorous resistance
 - Claims of threatening notes or phone calls prior to or after the assault

- Complainant presents cut and paste letters allegedly from the rapist in which death threats are made

CONCLUSION

The crime of sexual assault is one of the most devastating acts experienced by a victim. Law enforcement's initial response to a sexual assault report will determine the success of the investigation and begin the recovery process for the victim. Treating sexual assault victims with compassion and dignity is the professional and ethical response for law enforcement. Remember one of the greatest needs of a sexual assault victim is to be believed.

Law enforcement must educate itself and become knowledgeable of the different aspects of a sexual assault investigation. Law enforcement must dispel the myths and stereotypes associated with the crime of rape and the rape victim. Rape is not a crime about sex. It is a crime of anger, power, and control; sex is the weapon used by the suspect to commit the crime.